

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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## INFORMATION REPORT

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1. Realizing that social activities and recreation are basic human needs, the Federation of Communists of Yugoslavia (FCY) has been finding ways to channel such activities so as to exercise political influence indirectly among the masses. The FCY refuses to allow humanitarian and educational organizations to develop according to their own initiative and needs, but rather, by being as elastic as possible, uses all these forms to carry out its own program.
2. Based on the viewpoint that there is no such thing as an "apolitical" organization, the FCY directs its members to become active in one or more organizations and by hard work to serve as a good example to its members. It is expected that FCY members will be elected to the management of these organizations and control their activities fully. When it happens that Communists are not elected to the management by reason of their activities, they are forced in by the FCY authorities against the will of the people, voting being usually public, except in the case of the Socialist Alliance of the Working People of Yugoslavia (SAWPY).
3. A main task of FCY members is to prevent their enemies, either Cominformists or "reactionaries", from gaining prestige or control in these organizations. If it appears that this is about to happen, FCY members intervene immediately, mainly during discussions, when unwelcome viewpoints are being expounded. If the "enemy" is a group of influential and serious people, the FCY members in the organization refer the matter to their basic Party organization where discussions are held to decide how to proceed. If it is noted that "the enemy" has already acquired great influence, the Party basic organization concludes that their members have not been sufficiently vigilant at the start, in allowing "the enemy" to start his activities. In such a case, a higher FCY forum helps plan tactics to be adopted. At the same time, UDB may investigate the "enemy" leader, imprison him on the smallest pretext, or warn him against engaging in politics. It should be stressed, however, that this procedure is applied only in extreme cases, where the person involved is a prominent

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figure and an uncompromising fighter against Communism.

4. Another difficulty faced by the FCY is that many Party members hold conflicting opinions as to what the Marxist viewpoint is in the intellectual sphere. Many of the post-war members introduced into the Party "foreign and bourgeois concepts", and in spite of the best of intentions they cannot but "deviate" and be "apolitical" in the field in which they are active. There is also a certain amount of sabotage among FCY members who basically do not agree with the Marxist ideology and feel it alien to their basic impulses and tastes. In addition, many members of the medium and lower level FCY management cadres are immature and mediocre, although they must function as "priests for the masses", while among the masses are found mature people who know more than they do.
5. The greatest difficulty is found in the actual condition of the country, which makes the most attractive propaganda activities difficult. It often happens, for instance, that in the middle of a discussion on foreign policy, local politics or art, an ordinary listener interrupts the speaker to ask him "Tell me, what shall we do this winter now that the price of coal has gone up?" or "When will our community put sewers in the streets; our children are suffocating from dust in the summer time and we suffer from mud in the winter time," or "Will there be a salary increase, as has been rumored?" Despite all these difficulties, however, the activity of the FCY has not been fruitless in the field of mass organizations.
6. The basic FCY organization controls all mass organizations in its territory. The district organization controls mass organizations on its level and the city or town organization does likewise. This is true of almost all of the mass organizations.
7. The following is a partial list of Yugoslav mass organizations:
  - a. Socialist Alliance of the Working People of Yugoslavia: A political organization, formerly the People's Front. The mass membership is composed almost exclusively of non-Communists while the leadership is composed almost exclusively of Communists. This is true of the higher management but it is natural that also among them there are a few non-Party people who serve as figureheads. This organization has several million members.
  - b. Federation of Veterans of the War of Liberation: The purposes of this organization are: (1) taking care of the children of those who were killed during the war and of the children of those veterans who were not able to recover from the war during the postwar period; (2) the organization of various Brigade celebrations all over the country; proposing the names of killed Partisan fighters for decorations and other awards; (3) assistance to families whose father was killed as a Partisan; (4) the erection of monuments in all places where important battles for the liberation of the country had taken place; etc. This organization has about two million members.
  - c. Society of Friends of Children: This is a new organization and its aims are the following: (1) to find ways how to improve the upbringing of children; (2) to assist and take care of homeless children; (3) to organize kindergartens, playgrounds, and other recreational facilities for children; (4) to control and to denounce to the authorities those parents who abandon or mistreat their children; (5) to organize vacation centers for children, etc. This organization counts a few thousand members in Belgrade.

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- d. Union of Retired Employees: This is a half-professional and half-political organization. Until recently the membership in it included the right to paid annual vacations and social security. These are no longer the exclusive privilege of the members.
- e. Women and Youth Organizations: They are political and do not have many members.
- f. Federation of Riflemen (Rifle and Gun Club)
- g. Organization for Premilitary Service of Youth
- h. People's Technical Organization: A mass organization covering many fields and including technical courses for interested persons, offering courses in radio, telegraph, mechanics, motors, as well as sports aviation, automobile and motorcycle racing, etc. It is very well financed and its purpose is the training of future engineering graduates.
- i. Yugoslav Red Cross
- j. Various sports organizations, e.g., "Partizan", similar to the pre-war "Sokol".

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